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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Has Response
7/11/03
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In re the Application of: NAKAGAWA, Yoshiki et al.

Group Art Unit: 1713

Serial No.: 09/926,254 ✓

Examiner: Wilson, Donald R.

Filed: February 1, 2002 ✓

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 7001

For: METHOD OF TREATING POLYMER

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENTS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: July 7, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **June 5, 2003**, applicants elect to prosecute the Group I (claims 1-23). Furthermore, applicants provisionally elect the species of a copolymer of butyl acrylate/ethyl acrylate/methoxyethyl acrylate as vinyl polymers; an alkenyl group as initial terminal groups; and potassium acetate as oxy anion compounds. It is believed that claims 1-10, 12-20, 22 and 23 read on this species. The applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications on the non-elected claims.

The applicants respectfully request an early examination on the elected claims and favorable action on the merits. If the Examiner has any questions with this response, please feel free to call the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

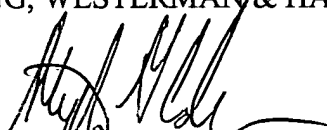
In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time.

The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP



Stephen G. Adrian
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 32,878

SGA/arf
Atty. Docket No. 011300
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



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